

## **18. REVIEW BY THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS**

The Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) completed its review of the application from Dominion Nuclear North Anna, LLC, for an early site permit (ESP) for the North Anna ESP site and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's safety evaluation report (SER) for this application. The ACRS ESP subcommittee began its detailed review of the North Anna ESP application and the staff's draft safety evaluation report (DSER) in December 2004. The ACRS ESP subcommittee met with representatives from Dominion and the staff on March 2, 2005. The ACRS held its full committee meeting on the North Anna ESP DSER on March 3, 2005. The discussions during these meetings focused on the open items from the DSER. On the basis of its review, the ACRS issued an interim letter report, dated March 11, 2005, which addresses the portions of the North Anna ESP application that concern safety. The staff responded to the interim letter report in its letter dated June 3, 2005 (ADAMS Accession No. ML051260009). This report captures the actions that the staff has taken in response to the comments and recommendations identified by the ACRS in its interim report of March 11, 2005, as described in the staff's response letter of June 3, 2005. The staff issued its FSER after the resolution of open items discussed in the DSER and after receipt of the ACRS interim letter report to the Commission related to its review.

During its meeting with the ACRS on July 6, 2005, the staff discussed the resolution of open items and the responses to ACRS comments on the major elements of the ESP review. At the 524<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ACRS, the full Committee considered the staff's FSER, as well as Dominion's North Anna ESP application, and issued its final letter report to the NRC Chairman on July 18, 2005. That letter report is included as Appendix E to this report.

In its final letter report dated July 18, 2005, the ACRS concurred with the NRC staff's conclusions concerning Dominion's ESP application and concluded that the proposed site, subject to the permit conditions recommended by the staff, can be used for up to two nuclear power units each of up to 4300 MW thermal without undue risk to public health and safety.